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OAKHAM

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. DECEMBER, 1960.

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OAKHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1960.

My Lord, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty-second Annual Report dealing with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine:-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	52,551
Registrar General's estimate of population ..	10,790
Number of inhabited houses	2,508
Rateable Value	£ 124,285
Sum represented by a penny rate .. Estimated	£ 500

TYPE OF DISTRICT.

The Oakham Rural District which covers over half of the County of Rutland, is largely agricultural in character, but ironstone mining is carried out in some of the more northerly parishes. Two large Aerodromes have been built by the Air Ministry at Cottesmore and Edith Weston and there is a smaller R.A.F. site in the parish of Greetham. One of H.M. Open Prisons is situated in the parish of Burley, about a mile to the north of Oakham. Except for a brewery at Langham there are no major industries, and by its geographical position with no large towns in close proximity, the District continues to retain its rural character undisturbed by urban development.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births -	Legitimate	114	88	202
	Illegitimate	1	2	3
		115	90	205
Still Births -	Legitimate	1	2	3
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		1	2	3

	Rate for District.	Rate for England and Wales.
Birth Rate	20.5	17.1
Death Rate	9.1	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.	19.5	21.7

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males.	Females.
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	-	2
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.	4	5
Diabetes.	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	4	11
Coronary disease, Angina.	11	3
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	1
Other heart disease.	7	7
Other circulatory disease.	2	2
Pneumonia.	2	4
Bronchitis.	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	2	3
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-
All other accidents.	1	-
	38	43

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health. John Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Camb.

The Medical Officer of Health acts for the Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Districts in which this District is included.

Public Health Inspector. G.E. Wells, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination, Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Other Foods, & Certificates General Hygiene and Sanitary Engineering.
The Public Health Inspector is also the Surveyor of the Rural District.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations from your area were carried out during the year at the Public Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Nose and Throat Swabs	6
Faeces and Urines	13
Sputa	14
Vaginal and Cervical Swabs	1
Waters	12
Bloods	6
	52

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1960.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	4	1	-
Measles.	75	-	-
Pneumonia.	5	1	1
Whooping Cough.	20	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1	1	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-

There was no serious epidemic during the year.

Disease.	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	2	8	5	12	4	43	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	2	1	3	2	2	8	2	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified as under :- Two of these cases were Servicemen attached to the local Aerodromes.

Age	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Number of Samples taken for analysis :-		
(a) from wells		5
(b) from piped supply		4
Results from Samples taken :-		
(a) from wells :-	Satisfactory	3
	unsatisfactory	3
(b) from piped supply :-	Satisfactory	2
	unsatisfactory	1
Number of wells :-		
(a) closed		3
(b) cleansed, repairs, etc., ...		1
Number of cases in which piped supply was provided		77
Number of Parishes with piped water supply :-		
(a) from public mains		23
(b) from private reservoirs		3
Number of Parishes without a piped water supply		2

During the year seventy-seven additional connections to properties were made so that piped water supplies are now available to practically the whole of the Rural District, and only two parishes with very few houses, namely Leighfield and Martinsthorpe, are without water mains.
There are private piped water supplies to seventy-two properties at Barleythorpe, Egleton and Gunthorpe, and Cottesmore Aerodrome has its own water supply to two hundred and eighty-two houses.

Water is available to approximately two thousand premises in the remaining twenty-three parishes from the mains of the Leicester City Corporation which acquired this Council's water undertakings in 1959. Arrangements have now been made by that Authority to augment the existing supplies in the northerly parishes of the District from its mains in adjoining Districts in case of emergency. The Leicester City Corporation has also taken over the responsibility of supplying water to the North Luffenham R.A.F. Station which includes a large number of properties in the parish of Edith Weston, and of maintaining a reserve supply for Cottesmore Aerodrome.

Particulars of the various piped supplies, as required by the Ministry of Health, are as follows :-

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area - continued.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of Cesspools constructed during the year	4
Number of Cesspools abolished during the year	23
Total number on 31st. December, 1960	398

Attention was given and general repairs were carried out as necessary during 1960 to the existing village drains and sewers of the District. The modern sewers and sewage disposal plants installed at Braunston, Market Overton, Exton, Langham, Cottesmore and Greetham continued to function satisfactorily. Works of sewering the villages of Empingham and Manton are now well in hand and should be completed during 1961.

Tenders received for the provision of new sewage disposal works at Whissendine were passed to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and one was recommended for approval. Enlargement of the existing sewage disposal works at Cottesmore is under consideration following notification of further development at the R.A.F. Station there in the near future. Schemes for the sewering of the villages of Edith Weston and Egleton have already been laid before the Council by the Consulting Engineers, who have also been instructed to submit plans for a new sewerage system at Ashwell.

Consideration was also given by the Council during 1960 to the possibility of sewering Hambleton and providing suitable means of sewage disposal there, but this matter was deferred by the Council owing to the heavy cost likely to be involved due to the scattered nature of the various properties in the parish.

Again, during 1960, many conversions of pail lavatories to water closets were carried out, as shown by the figures given below.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number in the District at the end of 1960 :-

Privies	1
Pail Closets	496
Water Closets..	2011

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year :-

Privies	1
Pail Closets	183

Number of privies converted to pail closets during the year .. Nil

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council's arrangements for fortnightly collections of refuse by direct labour from houses in the villages of the District and weekly collections at the Married Quarters of the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston were carried out without interruption during the course of 1960, and very few complaints in connection with this service were lodged.

Tipping is still being carried out in a disused ironstone railway cutting between Cottesmore and Ashwell and on a site adjoining the Lyndon Road at Manton, and another suitable site was acquired at an old stone quarry in the parish of Empingham. There was again a considerable reduction in the number of night soil pans in use following conversion of many pail lavatories and it is expected that this number will be reduced still further as soon as the residents in the parishes of Empingham and Manton have had an opportunity of connecting their premises to the new sewerage systems being provided there.

Collections of night soil have been carried out by direct labour in most of the unsewered parishes of the District, and the Council have also arranged for the emptying of the village septic tank at Ashwell periodically in addition to those remaining on its housing sites and the three village tanks at Empingham.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this report.

Total number of complaints received	290
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered ..	271

Nature of Inspections.	Inspections.	Re-visits.
Dwelling Houses.	556	1089
Tents, Vans, Etc.,	18	33
Slaughter Houses.	4	160
Dairies and Cowsheds.	1	11
Offensive trades.	-	-
Animal keeping.	8	9
Workshops, Etc.,	27	76
Shops.	33	83
Other premises.	294	443
	941	1,904

The Public Health Inspector made 1407 visits to the various parishes of the District. In addition 3 visits were made outside the District.

Notices.

Preliminary.	Housing.	Other.
Outstanding 1st. January.	2	2
Issued during the year.	279	64
Complied with during year.	279	64
Statutory action necessary.	6	1
Outstanding 31st. December.	2	2

Statutory.	Housing.	Other.
Outstanding 1st. January.	2	1
Issued during the year.	6	1
Complied with during year.	8	1
Statutory Action necessary.	-	-
Outstanding 31st. December.	-	1

Shops.

33 inspections and 83 re-visits were made to shops in the District during the year and action was taken under the Shops Act in respect of the sanitary arrangements at two shops.

Camping Sites.

Number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year	18
Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued	15
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area during Summer months	200

Regulated Buildings.	Number in District.	Number of Inspections.
Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.,	138	51

The figures shown under Camping Sites above do not include caravans or other temporary dwellings used on the local Aerodromes which remain subject to the control of the Government Department concerned.

During the course of 1960 the Council granted fifteen licences to owners of caravans for these dwellings to remain in the area for varying periods. Most of the caravans concerned belong to Contractor's men or other persons connected with the two large Aerodromes in the District, and who will probably be moving to other sites away from here in due course.

The only large caravan encampment already authorised by the Council is at Langham, used chiefly during the summer months, but with some caravans occupied during the whole of the year. Suitable sanitary accommodation and other facilities have been provided by the owner of the land to the satisfaction of the Council, and no complaints concerning the premises have been received from any of the occupants there.

In view of the new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 which came into force in October, fresh applications have had to be made by occupiers of land used as caravan sites in order that the vans may remain; and consideration was still being given at the close of the year to the matter of licencing these sites where suitable for the purpose.

PESTS CONTROL.

A Pests Control Officer is employed jointly by this and four other nearby District Councils to deal with any infestations of rats reported in the area, and this arrangement is working quite satisfactorily.

HOUSING.

Action under the Housing Acts during 1960 resulted in eight houses being demolished in pursuance of demolition orders.

During the course of the year payment of thirty-eight improvement grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and the House Purchase and Housing Acts, 1959 towards the costs of modernising private properties were approved subject to satisfactory completion of the works by the owners.

The total number of houses owned by the Council at the end of 1960 was three-hundred-and-fifty-six, of which one-hundred-and-nine were built prior to 1940.

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

During 1960 four bungalows for elderly people and four houses were completed by the Council in the village of Exton, and five new dwellings were also built by private persons in the District. A further number of houses were constructed for the Air Ministry at both the R.A.F. Stations at Cottesmore and Edith Weston where the Married Quarters are being considerably enlarged.

New works of building four bungalows and three houses at Market Overton and five bungalows at Whissendine were put in hand by the Council during the course of the year. The Council also have under consideration the erection of a further eighteen cottages in the village of Exton, and negotiations for the acquisition of further building sites at Cottesmore and Whissendine are in hand.

At the end of 1960 the number of applicants for Council Houses on the Housing Register was one-hundred-and-forty-one.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Dairies (not being Farm Premises) on Register ..	1
Number of inspection of premises	12
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year ..	-
Contraventions remedied during year	-
Number of contraventions outstanding 31st. December	-

No ice cream is manufactured in this area for sale, but there are 14 premises on the Council's list from which pre-packed ice cream is sold.

Meat and other Foods.

Twenty-four inspections were made of Meat Shops, Meat Stores, Etc., and thirty-nine inspections and re-inspections of premises where food other than meat is kept or prepared for sale.

The usual method of disposing of condemned food in this District is by burning.

	In Jan. 1960.	In Dec. 1960.
Private Slaughter Houses :-		
Number registered	-	-
Number licensed	4	3

Three only of the four licences for slaughter houses in this District were renewed during 1960, and these buildings were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

MEAT INSPECTION.

It was possible under the arrangement regarding times of slaughtering made by the Council early in 1959 with the local butchers, to inspect most of the animals slaughtered in the District at times convenient to the Council. The standard of the meat inspected was still very good.

As required under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, a report was submitted to the Council on the existing and probable future requirements of this District, and the slaughterhouse facilities which are, or are likely to become, available to meet those requirements. Consultations on this matter had previously taken place with the butchers and representatives of other interested parties. The report was subsequently forwarded to the Minister for his observations, and the matter was still under consideration at the end of the year. One butcher has already decided not to carry out any further slaughtering at his premises.

	Beast.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed.	208	785	253
Number Inspected.	191	717	231
All Diseases except Tuberculosis			
(a) Whole Carcases condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	3	3
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	0.52%	0.42%	1.30%
Tuberculosis only.			
(a) Whole Carcases condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned.	-	-	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-

	Beast.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed.			
Cysticercosis.			
(a) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-
(b) Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-
(c) Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955.

Difficulty arose during the course of 1960 through the re-opening of a shop which had been closed under the Food Hygiene Regulations in 1959, and where the sanitary arrangements were already known to be unsatisfactory. Notice to provide a suitable water supply, sink and drain was served upon the occupier, and the institution of legal proceedings considered. Before action was taken in the matter, however, the premises were closed by voluntary action on the part of the occupier, and have not since been re-opened.

Otherwise the Food Hygiene Regulations were observed in a satisfactory manner in shops throughout the district.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 - Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Several cases were investigated during the year, one of which caused some difficulty was where an elderly man was found to be living alone in unsuitable conditions in a bungalow badly in need of repair. With some difficulty he was at last persuaded to enter the County Home for Aged Persons and since that time his health has improved, and I understand he has now become quite settled in his new surroundings.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant,

JOHN YOUNG,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

APPENDIX.

Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises (1)	No. on Register. (2)	Number of Inspections. (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecututed. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	4	Nil	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	4	13	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises)	22	86	1	-
Total	27	103	3	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found :-

Particulars. (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector. (4)	by H.M. Inspector. (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7). (b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	1	1	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

PART V111 OF THE ACT.

Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work. (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (3)	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel. Making Etc.	33					
Lace, lace curtains and nets.	2					
Furniture & Upholstery.	1					
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	1					
TOTAL	37	-	-	-	-	-